

What is Claimed is:

1. An information stream monitoring system comprising:
an information monitoring device that monitors one or more electronic documents in an information stream, and compares information about the one or more electronic documents to at least one rule; and
a forum spawning device that queries a set of users when at least one of the at least one rules is satisfied, and creates a forum based on one or more replies from the set of users.

2. The system of claim 1, further comprising an invitation determining device that determines the set of users queried by the forum spawning device based on the one or more electronic documents.

3. The system of claim 1, wherein the forum spawning device queries the set of users to determine the need for the new forum.

4. The system of claim 1, further comprising a subscriber determining device that determines a set of subscribers based on the one or more electronic documents that satisfy at least one rule.

5. The system of claim 1, further comprising a subscriber maintenance device that associates at least one user and the new forum.

6. The system of claim 1, further comprising an electronic document storage device that stores the one or more electronic documents.

7. The system of claim 1, wherein the electronic document is at least one of: an electronic message; an e-mail; a bulletin board posting; and an annotation to a shared document.

8. The system of claim 1, wherein the information comparison is based on at least one of a rule-based model and a statistical-based model.

9. An information stream monitoring method comprising:
monitoring one or more electronic documents in an information stream;
comparing information about the one or more electronic documents to at least one rule; and
querying a set of users when at least one of the at least one rules is satisfied;
creating a new forum based on one or more replies from the set of users.

10. The method of claim 9, further comprising determining a set of message recipients based on the one or more electronic documents.

11. The method of claim 9, wherein querying the set of users determines need for the new forum.

5 12. The method of claim 9, further comprising determining a set of subscribers based on the one or more electronic documents that satisfy at least one rule.

13. The method of claim 9, further comprising associating at least one user and the new forum.

10 14. The method of claim 9, further comprising storing the one or more electronic documents.

15 15. The method of claim 9, wherein the electronic document is at least one of: an electronic message; an e-mail; a bulletin board posting; and an annotation to a shared document.

16. The method of claim 9, wherein the information comparison is based on at least one of a rule-based model and a statistical-based model.

17. An information storage media comprising:
information that monitors one or more electronic documents in an information stream;
20 information that compares information about the one or more electronic documents to at least one rule;
information that queries a set of users when at least one of the at least one rules is satisfied; and
information that creates a new forum based on replies from the set of
25 users.

18. The method of claim 17, further comprising information that determines a set of message recipients based on the one or more electronic documents.

19. The information storage media of claim 17, wherein querying the set of
30 users determines need for the new forum.

20. The information storage media of claim 17, further comprising information that determines a set of subscribers based on the one or more electronic documents that satisfy at least one rule.

21. The information storage media of claim 17, further comprising information that associates at least one user and the new forum.

22. The information storage media of claim 17, further comprising information that stores the one or more electronic documents.

5 23. The information storage media of claim 17, wherein the electronic document is at least one of: an electronic message; an e-mail; a bulletin board posting; and an annotation to a shared document.

24. The information storage media of claim 17, wherein the information comparison is based on at least one of a rule-based model and a statistical-based
10 model.

25. The information storage media of claim 17, wherein the information comparison compares at least one of: subject information; electronic document posting information; and electronic document tracking information.

26. An information monitoring system comprising:
15 an information monitoring device for monitoring data associated with electronic documents, the information monitoring device adapted to compare the data from the electronic documents according to a rule; and

a forum spawning device for querying a set of users when the rule is satisfied, and for creating a forum based on a reply from the set of users.

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